Garden Talk

By
Appomattox Garden Club

Let's talk about the bulbs that need to be planted this fall in order to have a riot of beautiful color in the spring of 1957.

Of all the very early spring bulbs, Crocuses are the most colorful and mostly widely grown. They bloom year after year, increasing by natural multiplication of the bulbs (or corms) and by selfseeding. They demand very little attention, and are richly rewarding. There is no sight as breathtaking and satisfying as that of a host of bright, little yellow, purple and white Crocuses standing defiantly in a March snow flurry.

Crocuses are exceptionally easy to grow and are seldom troubled by any insects or diseases. Unfortunately, however, the corms seems to be considered choice tidbits by mice, squirrels, and chipmunks, and rabbits are equally delighted with the tender young foliage. Therefore it is best ta have the beds or plantings near the house.

The soil best suited for Crocuses is one a bit on the sandy side. If the soil is heavy, it is wise to dig in a shovelful of sand or cinders where each group is to go. Have the bed in full sun, if possible, but if the corms are planted under trees that shed their leaves in fall, they will mature in half shade after their blooms are gone and the new leaves come on the trees. Effective shelter from biting spring winds will make a difference of two weeks or more in the opening of the first flowers. We have had the early varieties to bloom as early as the second week in February. The blooming period can readily be nearly doubled by making two plantings of a variety in different exposures.

The corms should be put into the ground as soon as you can secure them—early in September if they are available. (This is especially important with autumn - flowering crocus, which are usually shipped before the spring flowering varieties).

For planting Crocus corms, the depth given in most bulb-planting charts is two inches. If they are planted a little deeper, 3 or 4 inches, they are less likely to work up too close to the surface and will multiply less rapidly. They may be planted from 2 to 4 inches apart, and in informal clumps — dropped upon the ground by handfuls and planted where they fall.

Like most other hardy bulbs, the Crocuses will eventually become too crowded to continue a good display of blossoms. When this point is reached, they should be taken up as the foliage begins to die down, and immediately replanted. The very small corms will reach full flowering stage in a year or two.

Any ground cover used over Crocuses should be non-growing and not too dense. Creeping Phlox, Dianthus, and Primulas will do nicely, and such annuals as Candytuft or Pansies may be set in among groups of Crocuses to provide a cover for the dying foliage.

A most pleasing combination is an edging of Crucuses for beds of hyacinths, daffodils, and tulips. These, planted near a background of evergreens or spring flowering shrubs, make a cheerful picture.

While in most home gardens Crocuses are thought of as supplying a two or three weeks' show in the spring, they may be enjoyed during three or four months of the year if you will take the trouble to select both spring and autumn flowing species. And Crocus corms are very inexpensive. Several dollars will buy quite a collection. Begin studying bulb catalogues and order some fat corms next week. Or visit the stores that sell bulbs and select your choice. Be sure to plant 15 or 20 of one color in a group to make a showy, interesting bed. Whether you have a green thumb or not, whether you have vast plantings or none at all, if you will take the time to bury a bagful of these small brown miracle - bulbs into a few inches of soil around your front door step, you will believe anew in the glory of the resurrection of spring, when February comes again.

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"INEFFICIENCY NOT THE REASON" SAYS NEW STATEMENT BY VEA

Last Wednesday, the Associated Press transmitted from Fredericksburg a statement by the Board of Directors of the Virginia Education Association "in session there, reporting their review of the action of the Appomattox County Board in not reoffering contracts to two of the A. H. S. teachers. The news release included the statement,

. . . "it seems that the teachers involved were not reoffered contracts because of inefficiency." The complete statement was carried in our issue of Thursday. After we had gone to press a VEA spokesman issued a revised statement, correcting the first statement, to say that . . . "inefficiency does not seem to be the reason why the teachers were not reoffered contracts." The Times-Virginian does not know why the two teachers were not reoffered contracts, but it is confident that the teachers involved were efficient and well-qualified. To the best of our knowledge, the school board has issued no statement on the subject.

PREPARING FOR STATE FAIR

Richmond.- There's a hum of activity on the sprawling showgrounds at the northeast city limits as preparations are being made for the 1956 State Fair of Virginia, Sept. 21-29.

Ten buildings, of permanent construction, are being completed for eating concessions. Six have been completely rebuilt and 4 are new. They represent an investment of over $20,000.

Miles of roadways are being patched, buildings and signs repainted, grass mowed and the many things needed to ready the showgrounds for the attraction are moving along.

NO LICENSE FOR 26 YEARS

New London, Conn.- Stopping a car which had no tail light, two policemen asked to see the driver's license, Charles Guguere, 44, of Lyme, told astonished cops he had been driving for 26 years but had never had a license.

PLASTIC FOR PROBLEM POND IS TRIED ON HORTICULTURAL FARM

If you have a large mud-hole instead of a pond on your farm, you'll likely be interested in some tests underway at VPI's horticultural farm.

Researchers at VPI believe that plastic may be the answer to the problem of farm ponds that won't hold water.

They've adopted a 'wait-and-see' attitude about an acre pond which heretofore has apparently had few water-holding abilities, but which is now lined with some 3,500 pounds of plastic.

The liner is a plastic cover similar to the type material from which plastic raincoats are made. A few other states have tried the plastic linings on problem ponds, and report, "so far, so good." A pond at Clemson College, S. C., which had been losing about three inches of water per day because of seepage before it was lined last fall, is reported as "definitely still watertight."

The tests are being conducted in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and a commercial plastics company.

The cost? Between 4 and 5 cents a square foot now. But the use of the material is still in the experimental stage, and at the present time is not being manufactured on a large scale for pond use.

In Virginia, the researchers foresee a lot of interest from farmers, particularly those in the fruit-growing business in the northern part of the state who annually spend much time and money hauling water to their orchards for sprays. Rock formations in this area do not hold water very well.

Should Fertilize More

Farmers in general seem willing to spend money and time to fertilize such crops as vegetables, while they virtually neglect hay, pasture, and cover crops. A recent U. S. D. A. survey showed that, on the average, farmers use 68 pounds of nitrogen per acre for green and yellow veegtables and 83 for potatoes. But they averaged just one pound of nitrogen per acre for hay and four-tenths of a pound for pasture and cover crops. The same pattern was true, with the ratio varying just slightly, for phosphate and potash fertilizers.

Around Your Home

By Frances Dell

Dog lovers will tell you that no home is complete without one of "Man's best friends." Whether you fall into this group or not, the chances are good for one reason or another you do have a dog.

If you give your dog reasonably good care, you will be rewarded by having a healthy animal. In the long run, the proper care will be much less trouble and expense.

A puppy requires more attention than a grown dog. He should have a clean bed, raised off the floor, and placed where it will be free from drafts or excessive heat. He should have access at all times to clean water. Place his bed away from household traffic so he can catch up on his sleep and grow. Be sure his bed is large enough.

Fill his bed with a good type of litter. There are several types in general use - shredded newspapers, some types of straw and cedar shavings. Cedar shavings are considered best.

If he sleeps in the house, you will want to keep litter in a clean bag so that it won't get caught in his coat and be dragged all over the house. Be sure that all his bedding is clean.

Have your dog checked for worms about every two months. This will prevent any worms from getting a hold in his system. Also, by checking his stool, you will know what kind of worms he has and can give him the proper treatment for that particular type.

It may be that your pup may not be as clean as you would like for him to be. However, a young dog can have serious sequences. Use one of the liquid type shampoos on him with a good brushing. Make he does not become chilled.

An older dog can be bathed a month but no more often this. If necessary, use a litter in between times.

Nail clippings should always done by a veterinarian. Dogs have blood vessels running them. It is possible to cut dog to have a hemorrhage if ping is not done correctly.

Larger dogs need exercise maintain health and tone. Small dogs like the Pekingese, Chihuahuas, need no more exercise than they get from romping around the house.

Keep up your dog's dental and rabies vaccinations.

Give your dog enough water with food to keep him well nished but not fat. It is harmful give a puppy additional water sometimes and always give him ditional calcium to ensure proper growth.

Needless to say, dogs need and attention to grow into active happy animals.

MAN BITES DOG

Frankfurt, Germany.- A man with several drinks too many under his belt, became infuriated when friends took away his keys. Then, as if to add insult to injury, a dog began barking at him. That was the last straw. He seized the dog and bit him.

Comment On Sports

By Pete Fritchie

N Baseball

Washington, - Several teams in the Majors have fallen into ruts which can well cost them an otherwise good chance to win the flag. These jinxes are always interesting. There are several in the American League, which we will examine.

Boston's Red Sox heem to be thoroughly hexed by the Yankees. They had managed to win but four of twelve games against the Yankees as this is written. Moreover, just when they appear to be red-hot, the Yanks manage to cool them down. That happened in a major series six weeks ago, and happened this month.

Boston had won five straight earlier this month, two over Detroit, and three rom Cleveland, and threw their best, Tom Drewer, at the Yankees in a two-game set. They needed two wins for a number of reasons. They had closed the gap held by the Yankee. Had they closed it by two more, the lift might have been all-important from the psychological standpoint.

Moreover, the Yanks would have really been under pressure. But the Yankees, who had lost six straight, won the key game, 4-3, as usual. Next day the Sox won, for a split, but that merely saved the day — and kept their slim chances alive.

Boston, on the other hand, has Detroit's number. They win the close ones and repeatedly manage to keep the Bengals out of the first division. Washington is hard on Cleveland, usually, though the pattern hasn't held this year. Cleveland is usually hard on Boston, but this hex has also failed this year.

In the National League, Milwaukee has trouble with Philadelphia, St. Louis can't hardly steal a game from the Bums, and this is costing the old-time Dodger killers a chance at the flag. New York has been tough on the Cubs, and Brooklyn has moidered Chicago this year.

Milwaukee's flag chances probably depend on the ability of the Braves to continue to whip the Dodgers. As this is written, they hold the edge but in the first series between the teams this month, the Bums grabbed three out of four. Until that time the Braves had taken seven straight from the world champions.

The Redlegs have a great time with the Pirates, and need the same success with other clubs.

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Sarah Anne's COOKING CLASS

body with a normal appe- good taste delights in a dessert. Why not try these sherberts during the mer months? They are not to prepare and will delight ily or guests.

Peach Sherbert
sugar
ert water
spoon gelatin
of peach pulp
of lemon
of 2 oranges
sugar and water together minutes. Add the gelatin been softened in cold When the mixture is cold, peach pulp, which has been through a sieve. Add the and orange juice. Freeze.

Grape Juice Ice
water
sugar
grape juice
orange juice
lemon juice
sugar and water 10 minutes. juices. Cool. Freeze.

Orange Ice
water
sugar
orange juice
ed orange rinds
lemon juice
sugar and water for 10 minutes. the fruit juices and the rind. Cool. Freeze.

Lemon Mint Ice
handful fresh mint
boiling water
spoons gelatin
cup cold water
hot water
of 3 lemons
of 1 large orange
sugar
food coloring
the mint leaves, place in your boiling water over let stand.
gelatin add the cold wa- lemon is hot water. Add the of the lemons and orange. juice and water and the mint which should be squeezed add a little green coloring.

Apricot Sherbert
apricot juice
apricot pulp
cup water
cup granulated sugar
1½ tablespoons lemon juice
1-2 cup coffee cream
2 egg whites
Cook apricot juice, water and sugar for 10 minutes. Cool. Run apricots through a seive, add lemon juice, add apricot juice syrup. Chill. Pour into a tray and freeze. Remove to a cold bowl, beat with rotary beater until light. Add well beaten egg whites and cream. Freeze.

Pineapple Sherbert
3-4 cup sugar
1-2 cup water
1 No. 2 can crushed pineapple
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 cup coffee cream
2 egg whites
Drain juice from can of pineapple. Cook sugar, water and pineapple juice slowly for 10 minutes. Add pineapple pulp and lemon juice. Cool. Freeze until firm. Remove to bowl and beat with a rotary beater. Add cream and fold in stiffly beaten egg whites to which a pinch of salt has been added. Freeze.

Lime Sherbert
1 cup sugar
Juice and rind of 2 lemons
1 package lime gelatin
1 cup boiling water
1 quart milk
Combine sugar, juice and rind of lemons to lime gelatin which has been dissolved in the hot water. Cool. Then beat in the milk and freeze.

Lime Ice
2-3 cup sugar
2 cups water
1-3 cup lime juice
Green food coloring
2 egg whites
Cook sugar and water slowly, for 10 minutes. Add to the strained lime juice. Cool. Add green food coloring. Freeze until firm. Remove to bowl and beat with rotary beater until lighter. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites to which a pinch of salt has been added. Freeze.

KEEP POULTRY RECORDS

Keep simple but adequate poultry records, advise poultry specialists at VPI. Record dates and the amounts purchased, daily feed consumption, mortality, and other information. You will want to know the pounds of feed required to produce one dozen eggs, cost of feed per dozen, cost of feed per pound of broiler, and other facts. Records can be used as a guide for improving efficiency and profits.

Exports of farm goods rose 10 per cent in year.

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Stonewall

Stonewall, Aug. 13.- We have surely had some more heal hot and dry weather. Hope it gets better soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wheeler and family, of Richmond, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Irby Wheeler.

The Rev. and Mrs. Charles Spain and family, of Silver Hill, Ala, have arrived to spend their vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Carson, of Roanoke spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Lester Carson.

Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Carson were in Lynchburg on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Beard and son; Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Dinkard, Jr., of Lynchburg visited Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Morris had as their guests over the week-end her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Ferguson, of Appomattox.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Taylor and Mrs. Bert Stratton attended the wedding of their niece, Miss Joan Watson in Staunton on Saturday evening.

The W. S. C. S. of Bethel Church will meet in the home of Mrs. Lyle Moore on Tuesday of this week. A good attendance is expected.

Mrs. H. B. Jennings is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings..

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Moore spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dodson, at Evington, Va.

RAINS INCREASE DEER BROWSE

Recent rains generally over the state have developed additional browse for deer. It appears in some of the areas where deer concentrations are heavy that the animals may be able to find adequate food without browsing too heavily on agricultural crops, states I. T. Quinn, executive director of the Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries. The Commission spends large sums of money from its budget each year supplementing woods browse by planting food patches in agricultural areas. This is done to hold deer from the fields bearing agricultural crops.

The Federal Government has dropped its efforts to enforce a rule requiring loyalty oaths of tenants in Federally aided low-rent housing projects.

Major league group urges $500,000 minors' fund.

NEWS from HOLLYWOOD

After four years on Broadway, Patricia Neal is back before the cameras for another movie assignment. She has signed with Elia Kazan to co-star in his projected production of "A Face in the Crowd," with Andy Griffin, for Warner Brothers. The picture will be made in Piggot, Ark.; Memphis, Tenn., and New York. Miss Neal's most recent Broadway success was in Tennessee Williams' drama, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

Henry Fonda (who has also been appearing on Broadway for the past several years) and Anthony Perkins will co-star in "The Tin Star" for Paramount. The screen play is about a western sheriff who is pressed for money and turns in his badge to hunt criminals as a private citizen for the reward money.

Mamie Van Doren and Marie Windsor have joined Lex Barker and his co-star Anne Bancroft, in "Black Stockings," a mystery melodrama, which is being made in Utah.

Women will have a feast for their eyes in Olivia De Havilland's newest film, "Ambassador's Daughter," which was made in Paris. The clothes she wears are "just out of this world."

Richard Eyer, that fine little actor who has had some hefty fathers on the screen — Frederick March, Cary Cooper, and Steve Cochran, will have Van Johnson for his daddy in Metro's "Scandal."

Henry Fonda has something to crow about — he brought in his first independent film, "12 Angry Men," under budget and ahead of schedule. It will probably inspire him to do more producing.

John Ford's "Wings of Eagles," with John Wayne, begins filming at Pensacola, Florida, the latter part of this month.

While other TV stars are resting or traveling all over the world, "Lonesome" George Gobel is busy in Hollywood, making for R. K. O. "I Married a Woman," with the British version of Marilyn Monroe, Diana Dors. This is Gobel's second film, the first being his recently released, "The Birds and the Bees." Both pictures, as well as his TV show, are made under the auspices of Gomalco, the firm headed by George and his long-time manager, David O'Malley.

Another Broadway actor has turned to Hollywood for at least one screen role. This time it's Henry Silva, who recently was seen in "A Hatful of Rain." He will play a one-eyed gunman in Columbia's "The Captives." Mr. Silva's only other film work was in "Viva Zapata."

FOSSILIZED CRAB

Philadelphia, Pa.- Betsy Bur, 7, who is an amateur shell - hunter, recently found a stone shaped just like a crab at Beach Haven, N. J. It turned out to be a fossilized crab, which naturalists say may be 25,000 years old. It is on exhibit at the Academy of Natural Sciences here.

Appomattox is a growing town.

FALLEN WIRE KILLS 2

Durban, South Africa.- W. J. Cronje, a Farmer, shot at a bird sitting on overhead power lines. The shot knocked down the lines, which short-circuited and started a grass fire. His wife and their 14-year old son died when they tried to put out the fire and came in contact with the exposed wires.

BORN WITH 10 TEETH

North Hollywood, Calif.- James Meeks, 10 pounds, 10 ounces, was born also with 10 teeth. Baby James has more teeth than his brother, Lewis Jr., who is nearly 2.

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